

LITERARY NOTES.

The locality of Miss Jewett's "Marsh Island" is said to be Essex County, Mass.

"Mr. Lowell must have been in a strait betwixt two, when nature endowed him with the susceptible imagination of the poet on the one hand and the clear judicial intellect of the critic on the other." Thus writes G. Barnes Smith, in an admirable article on Mr. Lowell in "The Nineteenth Century."

The first two volumes of the publications of the New-York Shakespeare Society will appear in September. No. 1 is Mr. Guernsey's "Ecclesiastical Law in Hamlet," and No. 2 is a study in Warwickshire dialect, by Aphton Morgan. All the society's publications are bound in black and gold, those being the colors of the Shakespeare arms) and bear the seal of the society, which is an exact copy of the rough pencil-ing made by the heralds of the first John Shakespeare Grant, which differs slightly from the second and final device. Bretnans, of New-York, are agents for the society's publications.

The edition of the Revised Bible issued by the Henry Bill Publishing Company is an excellent one, with good paper, clear and handsome type and thorough accuracy. While the old system of paragraphing by verses is discarded, the verse numbers are conveniently printed in parentheses in the body of the text instead of in the margin as in the English edition.

Is there a somebody in Syracuse who under the guise of a sturdy bee buzzes thus—"through 'The Standard,' in the ear of Mr. Henry James: "DEAR MR. JAMES: Don't believe any one who tells you 'The Bostonians' is good or even tolerable. Don't believe any one who says he can read it. He is telling you an awful fib. Do your humble bee a favor, and whisper in strict confidence what makes you think a parody of your word mannequin can be liked or suffered by the readers whom your admirable early work won for you. You have taught people to do 'space' work for the mere profit of it, won't you please take it to 'The New-York Herald,' which is fond of that sort of thing? It will never be seen by any one who loves you. You begin with 'A New-England Winter' and 'Lady Barberina' the descent of a steep hill with Oblivion at the bottom of it. The author of 'The Portrait of a Lady' you and I know—your bee relies on your appreciation—merits something better than that. Pray put on the brakes—put them on hard!"

"And if we were Miss Murfree's bee," adds this saucy writer, "we should whisper: 'REPECTED MADAM! IT IS NO DOUBT UNMANLY TO TOUCH YOUR SWET CUP OF SUCCESS WITH A HINT OF DISGRACE; BUT COULD YOU PRUNE THE DESCRIPTIONS JUST A THOUGHT? IT IS SUGGESTED HESITANTLY, FOR WE ALL KNOW HOW CHARMING THE DESCRIPTIONS ARE; BUT THEY ARE SO GOOD THAT THEY SHOULD BE BETTER, AND THEY ARE TOO GOOD TO BE NUMBEROUS. DESCRIPTION, DEAREST MISS MURFREE, CANNOT BE MADE THE FOREGROUND OF A NOVEL; THE CHARACTERS ARE PROPERLY PORTRAYED UPON IT AS A BACKGROUND, DO YOU NOT THINK? AND COULD YOU BY THE WAY, WHILE YOU DO NOT THINK, USE SOME OF THE MAINNESS WHICH DECEIVED EVERY ONE, BUT YOUR BEE AS TO YOUR SEX TO MAKE THOSE SAME DESCRIPTIONS A LITTLE MORE VIRILE, A LITTLE LESS—TO STING HARD—LIKE A VASSAN SOPHOMORE'S SCORING LUCUBRATIONS! YOUR BEE CANNOT HURT A HOMINY AT THE MOMENT; BUT READ WILLIAM BLACK'S 'MACFOLIO OF DARE,' LET US SAY; AND THEN READ 'YOLANDA,' AND COMPARE THUS THE EARLIER AND LATER WORK OF A NOVELIST WHOSE ARTISTIC CREDIT IS IN THREE ARTICLES: I. DESCRIPTION. II. DESCRIPTION. III. DESCRIPTION. YOU WILL FIND AN AWFUL WARNING IN 'YOLANDA,' IF YOU CAN READ THE BOOK THROUGH."

New Publications.

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